## MISSOURI ETHICS COMMISSION



PO Box 1370 Jefferson City, MO 65102 <u>www.mec.mo.gov</u> (573) 751-2020 / (800) 392-8660

James Klahr Executive Director

March 15, 2016

Charles Grady 4014 Beachwood Ave St. Louis MO 63121

Re: File No. 16-0013-I

Dear Mr. Grady:

The Missouri Ethics Commission considered the complaint filed against you at its March 15, 2016 meeting. The complaint alleged that you distributed a campaign flyer without including a paid for by disclosure on the material.

Staff review of this complaint determined that the flyer you distributed included a paid for by disclosure. While the disclosure was incorrect, because it included the phrase "Paid for and approved by Committee to Elect Charles Grady . . C. Grady Treasurer," when you had not in fact formed a committee, the Commission's review of this complaint is limited by Section 130.054.3, RSMo, which provides:

3. Within fifteen days of receipt of a complaint pursuant to this section, the commission shall audit and investigate the allegations contained in the complaint and shall determine by a vote of at least four members of the commission that there are reasonable grounds to believe that a violation of law has occurred within the jurisdiction of the commission. The respondent may reply in writing or in person to the allegations contained in the complaint and may state justifications to dismiss the complaint. The complainant may also present evidence in support of the allegations contained in the original complaint, and such complaint may not be supplemented or otherwise enlarged in scope.

Emphasis added. In this case, the complaint alleged that there was no paid for by disclosure when in fact there was such a disclosure. Due the nature of this complaint, having been filed within sixty days of the election, the Commission is not able to enlarge the scope of the complaint.

From the facts presented, the Commission finds no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of the paid for by law pursuant to Chapter 130, RSMo, and is dismissing the complaint.

Sincerely,

James Klahr

**Executive Director** 

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